

08/15/01

jc978 U.S. PTO
09/929053
08/15/01

Group Art: 1743
Examiner: Patricia Kathryn Bex
For: SAMPLE RACK HANDLING SYSTEM

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

This is a request for filing a divisional application under 37 C.F.R. 1.53(b) of pending prior application Serial No. 09/292,990, filed on April 16, 1999, entitled SAMPLE RACK HANDLING SYSTEM, by all of the inventors named in the prior application.

1. Enclosed is a copy of the prior application, including the Declaration as originally filed.
2. The Filing Fee is calculated below:

CLAIMS AS FILED IN THE PRIOR APPLICATION
LESS ANY CLAIMS CANCELED BY AMENDMENT BELOW
PLUS ANY CLAIMS ADDED BY ACCOMPANYING PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Basic Fee							\$	710.00
Total Claims	4	-	20	=	0	x	18	= \$ 0.00
Independent Claims	1	-	3	=	0	x	80	= \$ 0.00
Total Filing Fee							\$	710.00

3. A check including the amount of \$710.00 is enclosed to cover the Filing Fee.

4. Cancel claims 3 and 6 before calculating the Filing Fee.

5. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1417.

6. Amend the specification by inserting, before the first line:

--This is a divisional application of U.S. Serial No. 09/292,990, filed April 16, 1999.--.

7. Formal drawings are enclosed, five (5) sheets, Figs. 1-7F.

8. The power of attorney is set forth in the Declaration in the prior application or an associate power of attorney is hereby granted to:

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9. Priority of the following Japanese patent applications is claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 119:

Japanese No. 10-109722 filed 4/20/1998

The certified priority documents have been filed in the parent application.

The undersigned hereby declares that no matter contained in the specification, including the claims, and drawings filed in the present divisional application would have been new matter in the prior application Serial No. 09/292,990, as originally filed on April 16, 1999.

Respectfully submitted,

Gene W Stockman

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